

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Gerhard Dittrich)
Appln. No. : TBA)
Filed : May 23, 2001)
For : METHOD FOR PROVIDING MEASURED)
VALUES FOR END CUSTOMERS)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to an examination on the merits, please amend this application as follows:

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-7 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please add the following new claims:

8. (New) A method for providing measured values for end customers, comprising the steps of:

recording a measured value for a process variable using a sensor S1, S2,
S3;

transmitting the measured value to a process control system PLS;

counting the number A of transmission operations; and

calculating the costs for the end customer on the basis of the number A of the transmission operations.

9. (New) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the data transmission between sensor S1, S2, S3 and the process control system PLS takes place in line-conducted fashion, using, for example, a data bus system DBS.

10. (New) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the data transmission between sensor S1, S2, S3 and the process control system PLS takes place by radio.

11. (New) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.

12. (New) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.

13. (New) The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the number A is stored in the sensor S1, S2, S3.

14. (New) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the number A is stored in the process control system PLS.

15. (New) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the number A is stored in the process control system PLS.

16. (New) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which data base the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is

counted.

17. (New) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

18. (New) The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

19. (New) The method as defined in claim 11, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

20. (New) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the measured values are transmitted over the internet from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

21. (New) The method as defined in claim 8, wherein the measured values are

transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

22. (New) The method as defined in claim 9, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted

23. (New) The method as defined in claim 10, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

24. (New) The method as defined in claim 11, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is counted.

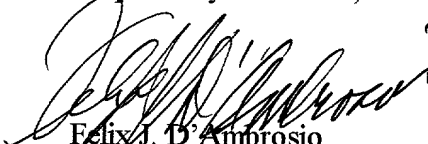
25. (New) The method as defined in claim 12, wherein the measured values are transmitted by radio from the sensor S1, S2, S3 to a database at the field transmitter manufacturer, to which database the end customer likewise has access over the internet, and wherein the number of database access operations by the end customer to this database is

counted.

REMARKS

The above amendments to the claims is being introduced to avoid the multiple claim fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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